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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/032,882	10/29/2001	Sebastien Bouat	50003545 -3	8291

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HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY  
Intellectual Property Administration  
P.O. Box 272400  
Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400

EXAMINER
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PEARSON, YVETTE B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2144

DATE MAILED: 04/04/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/032,882	BOUAT, SEBASTIEN	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Yvette Pearson	2144	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
  - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 October 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 - 17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 - 17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on October 29, 2001 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 10/032882.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                        | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)               | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>April 8, 2002</u> .   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. Claims 1- 17 are presented for examination in the application.
2. Acknowledgement is made of Information Disclosure document filed April 8, 2002.
3. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d). The copy has been filed in parent Application No. **10/032882** filed on October 29, 2001.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1 - 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Elliott et al. (US 6,614,781).
6. As per Claims 1, 11 and 13, Elliott teaches a gateway method of an IP data network wherein the gatekeeper includes a plurality of sub-process each able to

process a series of messages including the step of dispatching the messages incoming on the gatekeeper system onto the different sub-processes (Column 4, Lines 31 – 34, Lines 49 – 51; Column 25, Lines 15 – 25; Figure 1, #108), further including identifying whether a message belongs to a same call as previous message such to send the message to the same sub-process as the previous message was sent ([originating and terminating gateways maintain information to exchange full duplex information] Column 53, Lines 12 - 29.)

7. As per Claims 2, 12 and 14, Elliott teaches the a gateway method as described above further comprising identifying whether a message belongs to a same call as a previous message including the step of identifying whether the message has the same conference identifier as said previous message such to send message to sub-process that processed previous message ([Call Reference – Unique call identifier] Column 53, Lines 33 – 34; Line 51.)

8. As per Claim 3, Elliott teaches the a gateway method as described above in Claim 1, further comprising the method applied in a H323 network (Column 43, Lines 34 – 44.)

9. As per Claim 4, Elliott teaches the a gateway method as described above in Claim 3, wherein the messages to be dispatched are 'Registration, Admission and Status' (RAS) messages (Column 44, Lines 15 - 22.)

10. As per Claims 5 and 6, Elliott teaches the a gateway method as described in Claim 4, further comprising identifying whether the message is a registration or an admission message to determine the sub-process to which the message is going to be

dispatched on the basis of current load of sub-process to balance the load of sub-processes (Column 45, Lines 3 – 11; Lines 34 - 38.)

11. As per Claim 7, Elliott teaches the a gateway method as described above in Claim 1, wherein messages to be dispatched enter the gatekeeper system in an encoded form and comprise fields containing data which identify a call and further includes decoding the message only partially, the decoded part including one or several fields which contain data ([encoder/decoder performs voice compression or data packetization ] Column 65, Lines 64 – 67; Column 66, Lines 1 – 8; Figure 11A, #1108.)

12. As per Claims 8 - 10, Elliott teaches the gateway method as described above as in Claim 7, further comprising examining fields of the message which contain the data to identify the call wherein the message indicates the type of message by examining the fields in sequence ([compression processing algorithm] Column 67, Lines 37 – 52.)

13. As per Claim 15, Elliott teaches a gateway method of an IP data network wherein the gatekeeper includes a plurality of sub-process each able to process a series of messages including the step of dispatching the messages incoming on the gatekeeper system onto the different sub-processes (Column 4, Lines 31 – 34, Lines 49 – 51; Column 25, Lines 15 – 25; Figure 2A-2, #108), further including identifying whether a message belongs to a same call as previous message such to send the message to the same sub-process as the previous message was sent ([originating and terminating gateways maintain information to exchange full duplex information] Column 53, Lines 12 - 29); wherein messages to be dispatched enter the gatekeeper system in an encoded form and comprise fields containing data which identify a call and further includes

decoding the message only partially, the decoded part including one or several fields which contain data ([encoder/decoder performs voice compression or packetization of incoming digital signals] Column 65, Lines 64 – 67; Column 66, Lines 1 – 8; Figure 11A, #1108.)

14. As per Claims 16 and 17, Elliott teaches a gateway system for communicating voice and data over a packet-switched network the includes gateway sites (Column 4, Lines 49 – 51; Column 19, Lines 25 – 39; Figure 2A-2, #108.)

15. Thus, Elliott discloses all limitations of the rejected claims; therefore Elliott anticipates the subject matter of Claims 1 – 17.

### ***Conclusion***

16. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

17. US 6,665,293, (Thornton et al.) discloses a telephony gateway system that automatically routes telephone calls using voice, data and facsimile between PBXs over a public switched telephone network or a data network.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yvette Pearson whose telephone number is 571 272-4227. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00am-5:30pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bill Cuchlinski can be reached on 571 272-3925. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Yvette Pearson

Examiner

Art Unit 2144

MARC D. THOMPSON  
MARC THOMPSON  
PRIMARY EXAMINER